

# Open Range Zoo



The Liberal-led Government will establish Western Australia's first Open Range Zoo.

Building on WA's reputation for wide open spaces and excellence in zoological practices, an open range zoo will allow for bigger, more natural groupings of animals, particularly large species such as elephants, rhinoceros and giraffes. It will also provide a unique natural viewing experience for Western Australian visitors and tourists.

It will also support and promote the Zoological Parks Authority's important role in international wildlife conservation.

The Liberal-led Government has begun planning at its preferred site in Lower Chittering for the zoo to be developed over a five to 10-year period and has made \$150,000 available to the Zoological Parks Authority. Initial scoping work has revealed that this site is appropriate for a zoo to accommodate both exotic and Australian animals.

## Fast Facts

- Perth Zoo has more than 1,300 animals and more than 170 species.
- Perth Zoo was established on its 16.5ha site in South Perth in 1898.
- Last year, Perth Zoo welcomed almost 700,000 visitors.
- Perth Zoo has played a world-leading role in breeding critically endangered exotic species such as Sumatran orang-utans, Sumatran tigers, the Nepalese red panda and tree kangaroos.
- Existing Open Range Zoos in Australia include:
  - Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo, New South Wales – opened in 1977;
  - Werribee Open Range Zoo, Victoria – opened in 1975; and
  - Monarto Zoo, South Australia – opened in 1983.
- The San Diego Zoo Safari Park is visited by more than two million people annually and Werribee attracts more than 550,000 visitors a year.



## Our Commitment

- The Liberal-led Government will establish an Open Range Zoo and has chosen a 700ha conservation and recreation reserve in Lower Chittering, owned by the State, as the preferred site.
- The striking landscape of the site, overlooking the Avon River, will make this the most beautiful zoo in Australia which will also lend itself to a variety of complementary tourist activities and accommodation options.
- The zoo will initially operate as a breeding and agistment facility before expanding to accommodate public viewing and specialist animal exhibits.
- It will complement the Perth Zoo and become an important centre for breeding and conservation programs.
- Accessible from Perth, the Swan Valley and the Avon Valley, the new Open Range Zoo will become a major tourist attraction for Western Australia.

## A Strong Record

The Open Range Zoo is a part of the Liberal-led Government's plan to continue transforming Perth through major projects that capture the imagination, inject vibrancy and create opportunities.



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Authorised by A.Cox, 2/12 Parliament Place, West Perth WA 6005.

